

ANTHONY GONZALEZ  
16TH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,  
SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

**Congress of the United States**  
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Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Kungle Road Culvert Replacement in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is City of Norton and the project is located at Kungle Road Norton, Ohio 44203.

The funding is designated for replacing a bridge in the city of Norton on Kungle road, a key thoroughfare for the cities of Norton, New Franklin, and Barberton, Ohio. In 2019, heavy rains resulted in widespread regional flooding along the Tuscarawas River, leading to the failure of the bridge. Prior to the failure, the structure had not been placed on the state bridge inventory list, causing a situation in which the bridge was considered an "orphan bridge." Despite the emergency nature to rehabilitate Kungle Road in wake of the flooding, funding to replace the bridge has not yet been identified. The city of Norton has determined a solution through the creation of 9'x6' culvert, which will remedy the legal status of the structure. Going forward, the city is willing to take responsibility for the culvert and provide the local share of funding.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to benefit residents, local businesses, as well as overall public safety. Kungle Road is a major north-south road for residents in the cities of Norton, New Franklin, and Barberton. Failure to replace the structure, has forced residents, as well as emergency vehicles, to take a significant detour. Supporting adequate funding to replace the structure becomes abundantly clear when recognizing that in doing so, emergency vehicles have quicker response times. This is critical when minutes or seconds could mean saving a life.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Anthony Gonzalez  
Member of Congress  
April 22, 2021